Chapter 24
STATE HIGHWAY REHABILITATION-MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

GENERAL

State Highway Rehabilitation-Maintenance (SHRM) projects are described in the State Highway Maintenance Manual (MM) Policy 13.02 and the Facilities Development Manual (FDM) Procedure 3-1-5. Both of these documents state,

> "*SHRM projects span the gap between routine maintenance and improvement projects. Their primary focus is to preserve and maintain existing roadways and structures. They are not intended to upgrade or improve highway facilities."*

The MM goes on to say, "*For this reason, structural and/or safety enhancements would not typically be expected; however, it is permissible to include them when it can be done easily and inexpensively. Examples of safety enhancements are: milling to correct cross slopes, installing new or replacement guardrail, improving intersections by adding tapers and turn lanes and increasing radii, revising superelevations, and paving shoulders."*

The level of utility coordination required for a SHRM project depends on the type of construction work involved. The designer should think about what the contractor needs to know, what impact the project will have on existing utility facilities, and what design information is available to provide to the utilities, when determining the level of coordination effort required. The utility coordination for SHRM projects may involve a field meeting with utility company personnel at the project site to discuss what work will be done.

TRANS 220

Trans. 220 applies to "*state trunk highway improvement projects which have utility facilities located on them*." The definition of highway improvement projects is given in Figure 1-19, which states ""*highway improvement" includes* ***construction, reconstruction and the activities, operations and processes incidental to building, fabricating or bettering a highway****, public mass transportation system or street, but* ***not maintenance***." Any work that does not fit this definition is not required to follow the Trans. 220 utility coordination process. It is important to note that "bettering a highway" is not considered maintenance.

Some SHRM projects **will** be Trans. 220 projects and some **will not** be Trans. 220 projects. It all depends on the nature of the work involved.

The designer still has to do a good job of utility coordination even if Trans. 220 does not apply, but the level of coordination activities required would generally be less than that required of Trans. 220 projects. Utility company workers do not want to be bothered by senseless time-consuming paperwork that does not serve a good purpose, but fulfills a bureaucratic requirement. As noted above, consider the level of utility coordination needed to get the construction work accomplished with no conflicts or delays during construction.

IF NO GROUND IS BROKEN

If no ground will be broken, utility coordination can be very minimal. A list of utilities thought to have facilities in the area should be placed on the plan sheets and in the special provisions. This list can be developed from utility service territory maps and utility permit records.

A sample special provision for this type of project:
Utilities. This project does not come under the provisions of Administrative Rule TRANS 220. No utility conflicts are anticipated. The following utility companies have facilities in the project area:

Wisconsin Electric Company
Ameritech
Warner Cable

Projects that have beam guard are considered projects that break ground. Repairing beam guard is considered a maintenance activity and not subject to Trans. 220. Placement of new beam guard, or upgrading of existing beam guard **will** be a Trans. 220 project.

BRIDGE WORK
On projects that involve bridge construction or repair, **LOOK UP**! Utility facilities may not require relocation to accommodate the final product, but in order to the **do** the work, it might be necessary to relocate overhead or underground wires. Is it possible to build the project with the wires in place? If so, there is no problem, but the fact that the wires will not be relocated should be specified in the special provisions. In this scenario, a contractor that prefers to place the crane in a location that conflicts with the wires does so at his own cost. The contractor will have to pay any temporary relocation costs that might be needed to swing the crane. Contractor preference is not a reason to force utility companies to relocate their facilities without compensation.

Bridge projects can require a lot of utility coordination if utility facilities are attached to the bridge. These types of projects should follow Trans. 220 utility coordination practices. If utility facilities need to be temporarily relocated, or protected during construction activities, good communication between the designer and the utility is required. The special provisions should reflect whatever arrangements are necessary to accommodate the work.

If there are no utilities attached to the bridge, and there are no overhead or underground wires near the bridge, these projects can be treated like projects where no ground is broken as in the section above. Simply state that there are no anticipated conflicts and list the known utilities in the area.

IF GROUND IS BROKEN
Generally if any ground is broken, there is a potential for utility conflicts unless the designer is 100% sure that there are no utility facilities in the area. A request for utility locates (a call to Diggers Hotline and any utility companies known to service the area that are not members of Diggers Hotline) is required to verify that there are no utilities in the project area. The Region Utility Coordinator should be able to provide a list of utilities servicing the area by consulting their service territory maps for utility companies and the Utility Permit database. Once the project area is found to be free of utility facilities, the project can be treated as a project where no ground is broken, except that the special provisions should contain the following statements:

The following utilities have facilities that service the project area; however, no adjustments are anticipated: Alliant Energy Company; Madison Gas & Electric Company; Verizon Inc.; and TCI Cablevision.

The contractor shall have all buried utilities field located prior to the start of construction.

When there are utility facilities in the project area and ground is being broken the utility must be notified of the project and consulted, at some point, as to what coordination will be required during construction.

If the designer has cross sections or detail information on the work that is being done, that should be sent to the utility during the design stage. The utility should be asked to review the information provided and develop a work plan to address any conflicts with their facilities. This implies that the designer can provide sufficient information for the utility to identify any conflicts with their facilities.

If there are no cross sections and the only information that is available is a line diagram showing work locations, the utility will not be able to determine where they might have conflicts. Sometimes a field meeting will help this situation. If the designer can adequately describe in the field what work is being done, and work with the utility to determine any potential conflicts, a work plan can be developed to resolve the conflicts. The details of this work plan should be placed in the special provisions if there is any work that must be coordinated during construction.

In some cases, the plan is so sketchy and the work limits so ill defined that it is not possible to resolve conflicts prior to construction. In this case, it will be the contractor's responsibility to work with the utilities during construction to resolve any conflicts. This must be spelled out clearly in the special provisions. A sample special provision is given below:

The contractor shall have the utilities field located prior to beginning any work. The nature of this work prohibited resolving any utility conflicts prior to construction activities. The contractor is responsible for coordinating any utility relocation or adjustment that may be necessary to accomplish the work of this project. The utility companies involved are:

Sites 1,2, and 3 - Alliant Energy, Verizon, Charter Communications
Sites 4 and 5 - Alliant Energy, Ameritech, Wisconsin Gas
Sites 6, 7, 8 and 9 - Wisconsin Electric, Midwest Telephone
etc."

NOTE: If you know that all the utilities are members of Diggers Hotline, instead of *"The utility companies involved are:"* the following sentence may be used: *"All of the utility companies with facilities in the project work areas are members of Diggers Hotline."*